

# Union law met with opposition

**DARCIE BRADFORD**  
Managing Editor | @darcie\_jeanne\_7

A new union labor law in Missouri has passed that will change the way unions have functioned for decades.

The Right to Work law, signed by Gov. Eric Greitens Feb. 6, states unions cannot require members to pay dues and no person can be denied employment on account of membership or nonmembership in a labor union.

A union, or a similar collective group of employees, is usually seen by its members as a way for workers to negotiate and communicate with their employers or management on a more level playing field than if each employee were to approach management individually.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Daniel Smith said the idea is to make union membership optional, but that idea can come with issues.

“The way unions have operated for generations is that they require all workers to pay union dues,” Smith said.

These union dues fund a variety of things within the union, such as including paying the salaries and benefits of union leaders and funding union governance and legal representation, legislative lobbying and political campaigns. The dues also fund members’ pension, healthcare,

welfare and safety funds, as well as the union strike fund.

“More recently, some states have passed laws stating that if workers do not want to join, they may pay only a portion of the dues, which is allocated directly to advocacy for employment conditions and compensation,” Smith said. “Right to Work goes further, allowing workers to completely opt out of union dues or contributions regardless of any free rider benefits. The argument for Right to Work is that workers cannot be forced to join or support a union in order to have a job.”

Missouri labor unions have long fought the passing of a law of this nature, fearing it would cause union wages to decrease and the cost of sustaining unions to increase. Congress of Industrial Organizations President Mike Louis filed several initiative petitions in preparation for the passing of this bill. If the initiative appears on the 2018 ballot, citizens will vote on whether to amend the constitution to allow union negotiation rights or not.

However, Greitens believes Right to Work is right for Missouri. After signing it into law, Greitens said the bill is not as dramatic as people think.

SEE **LABOR** | **A5**



Maryville residents Justin Parker and Kim Wray receive tax assistance from H&R Block tax associate Lori Harris Feb. 20.

worked with the Phyllis and Richard Leet Center for Children and Families to create the outdoor playground.

“We contacted Nature Explore and they were able to work with us to design an outdoor classroom,” Seipel said. “It includes a running, jumping and play area, as well as a climbing structure; it stresses physical activity.”

Seipel said they asked students for their input as to what they wanted to see in the new playground.

“Students were asked what they wanted,” Seipel said. “They said they wanted an area to run track, a climbing area, hammocks and a shady space to talk and relax.”

Seipel said the design Nature Explore helped with includes most of the children’s wants. The ability to incorporate them all depends on the grant.

The Land and Conservation Grant will provide funds, matching 50 percent. Harr says fund match-

**MYRANDA NERUD**  
Chief Reporter | @thatkidmyranda

Horace Mann Laboratory School seeks a new playground.

In the fall of 2016, Horace Mann Principal Sandy Seipel found out the school would lose its playground.

“Northwest is expanding the tennis courts,” Seipel said. “We wanted to figure out where to move the play area, but the equipment is probably too old to move.”

Board of Regents Chair Patrick Harr said the University plans to expand the tennis court by Horace Mann and destruct the old courts by the high rises, which will be dismantled for the indoor facility.

Horace Mann worked with Nature Explore to design the new playground. Nature Explore works to change children’s lives through research-based outdoor classroom design services, according to its website.

Seipel said Nature Explore also



Northwest students are wanting answers after students claim University issued tickets are out of hand.

# Ticket turmoil

## University Police Chief explains reasoning behind warranted parking/traffic tickets

**KYLE YEHL**  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Frustrated Northwest students are calling for heightened awareness efforts by University Police in relation to campus parking lot regulations.

Seniors Carson Brown and Tim Hannah say the parking rules are complex, and information regarding them is difficult to locate.

Brown has received 15 parking tickets throughout his time at Northwest.

Brown said some of those originated from not knowing about restrictions at all.

“My first couple of tickets, I didn’t understand the rules as a freshman,” Brown said. “They were

never explained to us. After a while, I realized the colors on signs in the lots indicated commuter, residential or faculty/staff lots. My sophomore year alone I got nine tickets.”

Brown said he still finds parking lot signage deceiving.

“I recently drove to the Station for Nav Night, and I saw a faculty/staff spot open (in Lot 39) and pulled in after 5 p.m. – I thought I was good after then,” Brown said. “When I came back out, I had a ticket. I took it to University Police, and they said it was a 24-hour faculty/staff spot. I didn’t know that existed.”

Hannah claims University Police has issued him four or five parking tickets in the 2016-17 academic year.

Hannah said his tickets arose because of student employment positions.

“When I’m working from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., I don’t really want to walk home when it’s after 10 p.m. at night,” Hannah said. “I think a lot of people would agree with that. Sometimes I work at 5:30 a.m. as well, and I don’t want to walk to work in a negative 15-degree wind chill in the winter.”

University Police Chief Clarence Green said students can protect themselves from tickets by taking basic steps.

“Always purchase a parking permit, and if you need a temporary permit stop by our office,” Green said.

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT **NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

# Extension office provides tax aid

**KATIE STEVENSON**  
Chief Reporter | @KatieSue\_62442

University of Missouri Extension is offering services to do residents taxes for free.

The tax preparation service will be offered to the public at the Nodaway County Extension Office Feb. 24. Meridith Berry who works at the University of Missouri Extension as a family financial education will be hosting the free tax preparation.

University Extension first provided the tax service in 2005. The service is offered across the state of Missouri. Rebecca Travnicek, family financial education specialist with University of Missouri Extension, started the program. Travnicek said households that qualify for earned income credit (EIC) could receive a tax refund of up to \$6,044.

The University of Missouri Extension works with the IRS to provide the tax services, while also providing a wealth of information for

its clients as they make plans for refunds and struggle to make payments. In general, the University of Missouri Extension provides education to help people make decisions in their own best interests.

Every year, new rules are added to filing taxes and the process can often be complicated and stress inducing. Berry and the University of Missouri Extension want to help people make the process as smooth as possible.

“The demand for low income tax assistance is growing, especially when the Affordable Care Act was passed and the complexity of the tax return expanded,” Berry said. “The IRS no longer provides easy access to paper forms; they prefer online submissions. People without access to the internet or without computer skills are hard pressed to file on their own. Government officials have talked about simplifying the tax code, but each year there are new rules.”

The average family income of Northwest students is about \$79,600

and more than 87 percent of incoming freshmen receive some form of financial aid, according to Northwest Missouri State University Office of Scholarships and Financial Assistance.

Northwest senior Nick Calandra is a student from Nebraska who receives the Bearcat Advantage scholarship, which grants the student the cost of in-state tuition. However, Calandra believes Northwest is not promoting its scholarships enough, which could cause students to not receive all possible financial help.

“I don’t think the school really advertises its other scholarships enough,” Calandra said. “I’ve heard numerous professors say that people aren’t applying for scholarships when they’re available. I think the school needs to do a better job of letting students know about the scholarships in their specific majors and actively push them to go apply for them.”

SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT **NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**

# University to deconstruct Horace Mann playground, build new one

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Rape reported in campus housing

The Title-IX Office is investigating a report of a rape at South Complex.

University Police Chief Clarence Green said the rape allegedly took place Feb. 11 and was reported anonymously to the office Feb. 17. Due to the time between the alleged occurrence and the report, the University Police Department policy felt it was unnecessary to send a timely warning to students.

The office will begin the investigation process, interviewing both the accuser and the suspect.

Green said the student who made the accusation does not intend to press criminal charges, but will be continuing with the Title-IX process.

No more information was available about the case, but continued coverage can be found in the Northwest Missourian.

### Conviction reached in two-year old case

Tyreak Speed, 25, Liberty, was convicted of second-degree rape, a Class C felony. The maximum penalty of Speed’s charges is seven years in prison and/or a \$5,000 fine.

Maryville Public Safety arrested Speed in March following the assault March 15, which took place at a residence in the 700 block of North Mulberry Street.

According to documents released during the investigation, the victim said she met Speed

at the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity house at 622 N. Walnut St., however Speed is not affiliated with the organization.

After drinking intoxicating substances, the victim awoke to Speed having sex with her. The victim said Speed continued after being told to stop.

Speed’s sentencing is scheduled for March 20. Nodaway County Prosecuting Attorney Robert Rice said he will be pursuing the maximum sentence.



# DeVos' nomination raises concerns

ANNA HASTERT  
News Editor | @AnnaHasDirt

Public school proponents voice concerns following the U.S. Senate's confirmation of Betsy DeVos as U.S. Secretary of Education.

The Senate struggled to reach an agreement for DeVos' confirmation Feb. 9.

With only two Republican senators in opposition of DeVos' nomination, Democratic senators were unable to obtain an adequate amount of votes to influence the Senate's final decision, resulting in a 50-50 split decision.

In the event of a tie, the Senate president is to cast the final vote. Vice President Mike Pence, serving in his role as Senate president, cast the final vote in favor of DeVos' confirmation.

Maryville Public Schools Superintendent Becky Albrecht said the Senate's inability to reach an agreement on DeVos' nomination could negatively impact the education system moving forward.

"I think there's a lot of ways that [her appointment] could hurt," Albrecht said. "I think people are very divided over their support or lack of support for her, and in education, we're always going to achieve more if we're working together. I think that may be an unintended result."

Another concern school officials have about DeVos' nomination include her previous involvement in education.

DeVos, a former businesswoman, has neither studied education nor held a professional position as an educator. Albrecht said DeVos' previous involvement in education triggers concern.

"We have someone at the national level basically giving us guidance in leading reform; she's not a teacher, she didn't attend public education, she's not an educational researcher, she doesn't really have any experience to guide people that are under her direction now," Albrecht



President Donald Trump listens as Education Secretary Betsy DeVos speaks at a meeting with parents and teachers, Feb. 14.

said.

Albrecht said public school proponents also have reason to be concerned about DeVos' intentions in regard to the public education system.

DeVos said she supports "any great school" - including public schools and those beyond what "the (public school) system thinks is best for kids, to what moms and dads want, expect and deserve," according to USA Today.

Sophomore Rachel Ladd, an Elementary Education major, said knowing DeVos has never been a parent in a public school setting further raises concerns.

"In the US, around 50.4 million children attend public schools, and with that in mind, how can someone who has had no experience in the public school arena have the best interests of our children at heart,"

Ladd asked. "I would go on to say, in one of her hearings for the position, she admitted that she did not know what IDEA is, which is the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act that seeks to provide services to all children with special needs across the country and protects their right to be educated. I find this concerning as well, and hope that as Secretary of Education she will learn about it and find ways to help encourage this law."

In a 2013 interview with Philanthropy, DeVos conveyed support for vouchers, private schools, charters schools, homeschooling and "digital learning" as viable options under educational choice, according to Cosmopolitan.

Educational choice, also known as school choice, "allows public education funds to follow students to the schools or services that best

fit their needs - whether that's to a public school, private school, charter school, home school or any other learning environment parents choose for their kids," according to EdChoice.

Ladd said educational choice tends to harm the public education system rather than improve it.

"One of the downfalls of the voucher program is (it's) taking tax dollars from school districts to fund private schools outside of the district's boundary," Ladd said. "Tax dollars don't belong specifically to the student that they go to, they belong to people of the taxing district. Having those tax dollars removed from the community doesn't benefit the community at all."

Ladd says not only does the voucher program, also known as school choice, take money away from the taxing district, but also cre-

ates strife in regard to transportation. "If it is the 'sending' district that is to provide transportation, not only is tax money being taken away from that district, but it is also adding financial strain when they have to pay additional dollars to bus kids that aren't even attending their schools."

If the parents are the ones providing transportation, there is the issue that not all parents can afford to transport their kids to public schools, especially in rural areas where private schools are more likely to be miles away.

This creates income inequalities in schools where only rich families can afford to send their kids to private schools.

Ladd also said on top of the previously mentioned issues, is the issue of public tax dollars being used to fund religion-based parochial schools.

Albrecht said there are other viable solutions to improve the education, and that scrapping the public education system in favor for a new system is not the answer.

"I think there's a lot of things that we can do to the system that we have now that will make it even better," Albrecht said. "We're always working to improve the public school system. I really believe the fundamental thing that influences the quality of education is the quality of the teacher. We look to a lot of professional development and try to make great hires, and I think that's where it starts."

Albrecht said she would like to see DeVos use an open-minded approach as she leads the education system on the national level.

"I would hope that any official that we have as a high-ranking official, such as herself, would be very open to other ways of doing things," Albrecht said. "I hope that she takes the time to listen, research and learn about other perspectives and other systems as opposed to the one she's just been a proponent for."

# Police D.A.R.E. to bring back drug program

KATIE STEVENSON  
Chief Reporter | @KatieSue\_62442

The Nodaway County Sheriff's Department brought back the county's Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program.

The D.A.R.E. board was shut down eight years ago, but was brought back Feb. 6. The program has since been added to the Nodaway County school curriculum. The program is headed by Sgt. Rich Smail, who retired from the Maryville Public Safety Department in 2016.

As of 2009, the D.A.R.E. program has trained over 50,000 police officers to teach its program every year to 36 million K-12 students worldwide, according to the D.A.R.E. website.

The D.A.R.E. program aims to help students have more positive attitudes toward law enforcement, especially after graduation. This was Smail's main motivation for starting the program again.

"We break down barriers of school, police and parents working together to help get the kids the knowledge they need to succeed in life," Smail said.

Nodaway County Sheriff Randy Strong said he was excited about getting the program back in schools because he felt it offered vital lessons for the children.

"We felt it was important to schools, for one, that they get it, and we felt it was important to assist the families in this county and bring information to their children," Strong said. "We wanted to bring them the information about how to resist and how to fight the temptation due to drugs and violence."

Students who previously participated in the D.A.R.E. program reported lower alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use than students who did not participate in the program. It was reported that 40 percent of students who used alcohol at the beginning of the program reported reductions in alcohol use after receiving the curriculum. Also, it was reported that 32 percent of students exposed to the D.A.R.E. Program discontinued alcohol use altogether, according to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Strong said he is optimistic that the D.A.R.E. program will show

children how dangerous the use of drugs and violence is.

"I hope through our education, children will learn that it is a downward spiral if they get involved with drugs and violence," Strong said. "This program will hopefully give them coping skills that can help them avoid peer pressure as they grow older."

In the end, for Strong, Smail and all those helping to run the D.A.R.E. program, their mission always came back to helping the community.

Strong said he believed Smail embodied the idea of community, and though he was retired, he decided to help run the program. His dedication meant a lot to Strong and the sheriff's department.

"Deputy Smail had been with public safety for a number of years and he is well respected in the community," Strong said. "He teaches from the heart and really loves what he is doing. Though he is in retirement and could walk away, he choose to stand with our children and this community and hopefully teach them a valuable lesson. We are really pleased that he decided to come on board with us."



WWW.DARE.COM

The Nodaway County Sheriff's Department has brought back the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program (D.A.R.E.)

# DELBERT'S

# GARAGE

714 N DEPOT • MARYVILLE, MO  
X (660)562-0025 X  
"Old Fashioned, Honest Service"

TUNE-UPS, HEATING & AC REPAIR, MISSOURI STATE INSPECTORS,  
BRAKES, COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS, FUEL INJECTION, SUSPENSION  
& STEERING, ELECTRICAL, SYSTEMS CLEAN

# WASHBURN UNIVERSITY

## SCHOOL OF LAW

### STUDY HERE - WORK ANYWHERE

91% pass rate for 2016 graduates who took the July Uniform Bar Exam

- #2 in the nation for Government Law, *preLaw Magazine* 2016
- Top 11 in the nation for Taxation Law, *preLaw Magazine* 2016
- Top 12 in the nation for Trial Advocacy, *preLaw Magazine* 2016
- #13 in the nation for Legal Writing, *U.S. News & World Report*, 2017
- Top 17 in the nation for Business and Corporate Law, *preLaw Magazine* 2016
- 1 of 5 National "Top Law Students of the Year," *the National Jurist*, spring 2016

Scholarships available. Apply now for fall 2017.  
Call 800.927.4529

washburnlaw.edu/aboutus



# Death Penalty Discussion

Distinguished Lecturer sheds light on Missouri’s ultimate punishment



ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN  
Distinguished Lecture speaker Sister Helen Prejean spoke in the Charles Johnson Theater Feb. 15

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS  
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

Roman Catholic Nun and state execution opposer Helen Prejean led the Northwest Missouri State community in conversation about the death penalty.

The Distinguished Lecture Series was held in the Charles Johnson Theater at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 15 with the assistance of Distinguished Lecture Series Committee Chair Kenton Wilcox.

“The opportunity to cooperate with the Seminary (Conception Abbey) was part of why we chose her as a speaker,” Wilcox said. “She is also an internationally recognized voice, she has experiences that are not already represented on campus and her topics address interdisciplinary concerns, all of which help the Distinguished Lecture Series address its mission.”

Prejean taught at the Congregation of St. Joseph before beginning work at Hope House in the New Orleans St. Thomas Housing Project. She also served on the board of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty for 10 years, and was the chairperson for three years.

“The death penalty is one of the great moral issues facing our country, yet most people rarely think about it, and very few of us take the time to delve deeply enough into this issue to be able to make an informed decision

about it,” Prejean said on her website.

Prejean acts a national voice for issues concerning the death penalty and works to help form the Catholic Church’s outright objection to state executions. She is also part of the organization, Ministry Against The Death Penalty, that “believes in the dignity of all people and fosters creative, reflective and educational programs that awaken hearts and minds, inspire social change and strengthen our democracy’s commitment to human rights,” according to their website.

“If you want a litmus test about what you think about God, look at the death penalty,” Prejean said in her presentation. “What kind of God wants the death of a human being to pay for their sins? It’s about life. He said before you, choose life. Love and forgiveness are the opposite of hate. You can’t call an act of love shackling a person to a chair and then killing them.”

The process of lethal injection normally involves the use of three drugs. The first is used to induce unconsciousness, the second causes muscle paralysis and the third stops the heart.

Missouri is one of 18 states that still use the death penalty for particularly heinous crimes, such as murder. Missouri law authorizes the use of lethal injection or lethal gas as valid forms of execution.

# Video to discourage texting while walking

BROOKE BEASLEY  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Student Senate is teaming up with the University Police Department (UPD) to keep campus safe.

Student Senate and UPD have been working on safety videos, and plan to release the videos sometime soon in an effort to keep students safer.

The videos will be about texting and walking on crosswalks. If they are well received, the Student Senate and UPD plan to continue with the videos for other topics.

The videos will be short snippets with key pieces of information. The plan is to share the videos on cam-

pus, as well as on newly created social media platforms. The social media platforms will have the videos and the information in text form, UPD Chief Clarence Green said.

“We are also hoping to create a platform through social media that allows people to learn key information that will help improve safety, prevent crime and establish a relationship with those we serve,” Green said.

Green defined walking and texting as “distracting walking.”

“We are currently working on some safety-oriented videos for campus,” Green said. “The videos will be short snippets that will assist all with key safety information utilizing Northwest students and employees.

(In) our initial videos, we focus on crosswalk safety, texting and walking (distracted walking).”

According to Healthline, in 2010 alone an estimated 1,500 people were treated in emergency rooms for distracted walking. Their studies show this usually affects people ages 16-25. The website deems them “Digital Deadwalkers.”

A separate study from Stony Brook University shows people who use their cell phones while walking are 61 percent more likely to veer off course and 13 percent more likely to overshoot their intended destination than when not walking distracted.

Along with keeping people safe, they hope the videos will reduce crime

rates and boost relationships. Green is hoping to create relationships between servicemen and students through the videos, as well as between students.

“We have to find new ways to connect with those we serve that allow us to create a relationship,” Green said. “We know from science that relationships allow for authentic conversation to take place, and that will drive improvement if we listen.”

Green noted that the idea behind the videos is based on the work of Sugata Mitra. Mitra teaches ideas of self-directed learning. As quoted by Michigan State University Extension, his teaching philosophy is:

“Students learn more quickly by self-empowered opportunities, free-

dom to solve questions on their own and working in self-selected groups.”

Student Senate Committee Chair Jack Camenzind said the video still has a long way to go. Nobody is sure of its success yet, but everyone has high hopes.

“The video is still a work in progress,” Camenzind said. “We’re waiting until after it is completed to see what we can do.”

Student Senate and UPD are excited to be working on their first spring semester project together. The video’s release date is subjective still, but the duo is optimistic about the release and receipt of them. They hope to make more safety videos in the future.


## Worship in Maryville

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Worship, Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school for all ages @ 9 a.m.  
Shepherds Kitchen, Thursdays @ 5 p.m.



211 S. Main Maryville, MO  
**660.582.4257**  
[www.maryvillepresbyterian.org](http://www.maryvillepresbyterian.org)  
[churchstaff2@gmail.com](mailto:churchstaff2@gmail.com)



**Northwest Newman Catholic Center**

*“Get Involved and Stay Connected!”*

**Sunday:** 6:30 p.m. Confession, 7p.m. Mass  
**Tuesday:** 8 p.m. Confession, 9 p.m. Mass  
**Wednesday:** 4 p.m. Confession, 5 p.m. Mass, 6 p.m. Free Dinner  
**Thursday:** 9 p.m. Mass, Confession after Mass

*Small Group Bible Studies, Retreats, Mission Trips, and More!*

606 College Avenue  
Max Pawlowski, Campus Minister  
812.881.5151  
[www.northwestnewman.com](http://www.northwestnewman.com)  
Find Us on Facebook

**St. Paul’s Episcopal Church**

Sundays at 9 a.m.  
901 North Main



**Sunday music provided by Northwest students**

PRIEST: Sid Breese  
[SSBreese@aol.com](mailto:SSBreese@aol.com), or call 816-262-4958

**Need a ride?** Call Jody 215-0734

[www.saintpaulsmaryville.org](http://www.saintpaulsmaryville.org)  
[www.facebook.com/stpaulsmaryvillemo](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmaryvillemo)

**Worship With Us**

First United Methodist Church

4x4 Basketball on Tuesday at 8:30 pm

9 or 11:10 a.m.

The church at 1st & Main

[www.faithatthecrossroads.org](http://www.faithatthecrossroads.org)

 Transforming your world by living faith.

**First Christian Church**

Disciples of Christ



Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship  
9 a.m. Discipleship Classes  
201 West Third, Maryville  
660.582.4101

**Rev. Wendy Deering-Poynter**  
Campus contact: Deena Poynter  
660.541.1336  
[www.fcmaryvillemo.com](http://www.fcmaryvillemo.com)  
[fcmaryvillemo@gmail.com](mailto:fcmaryvillemo@gmail.com)

**Lutheran Campus Center**

(next to Alumni House)

More info: 636.219.6077

Facebook: LCC Lutheran


Bible Study Wednesday 8:30 PM

Home cooked meals Sunday 5:30 PM

[nwlutherancampuscenter@gmail.com](mailto:nwlutherancampuscenter@gmail.com)



**Hope Lutheran Church**

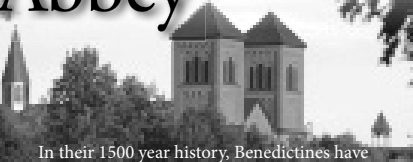


931 S. Main St.  
Worship 10 am  
Bible Study 9 am

[www.maryvillehope.org](http://www.maryvillehope.org)

Pastor Oddi: 816.351.0744

**Conception Abbey**



In their 1500 year history, Benedictines have been known for their hospitality and the monks of Conception Abbey are no exception. People of all faiths are always welcome to join the monks for prayer.

Visit us online for a complete listing of our daily prayer schedule.  
[www.conceptionabbey.org/guests](http://www.conceptionabbey.org/guests)

 **Maryville Church of Christ**

**Sunday**  
Morning Bible Study | 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship | 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship | 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 p.m.

Join us for Acapella Singing and more!

6th and Vine  
Maryville, MO  
660.582.8089

[maryvillechurchofchrist.blogspot.com](http://maryvillechurchofchrist.blogspot.com)  
[maryvillechurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:maryvillechurchofchrist@gmail.com)

**Advertise Your Church**

**660.562.1635**



# Black women need to support each other in the workplace

**MEKA WRIGHT**  
Missourian reporter | @TheMissourian

The past year has definitely been a year filled with #blackgirlmagic, the empowerment and praise of the black woman. Social media flowed with #blackgirlmagic memes and posts recognizing extraordinary women breaking barriers. But behind this there is still an underlying problem in the black woman community.

Because there are not equal representations within workplaces and university programs, black women have double the competition. They have to compete amongst themselves before they compete amongst everyone else.

A question every woman asks when encountering another woman with similar attributes, whether these attributes are physical appearance, education level or status, is: Is she going to empower me or will she be envious?

An article by Valerie Purdie-Vaughns, a professor of psychology at Columbia University, states women are not a monolithic group.

“Black and white women contend with very different workplace challenges,” Purdie-Vaughns said. “Initiatives that effectively identify and retain top talent must consider the unique challenges black women face and the leadership aspirations they offer.”

In order to fully understand, I must create a breakdown of the ladder that must be climbed. Imagine there is a panel of spots in an exclusive community or group. There is a seniority clause, or a type of social hierarchy. This hierarchy is: white men, black men, white women, with black women flowing in last. This means the black woman has to work four times as hard to level the playing field.

With the constant rise of black women in four-year university programs and workplaces, your token black girl position in a societal community is beginning to look a lot like a bride’s bouquet hovering over six desperate bridesmaids’ heads.

Black women have a strong desire for leadership and power. According to a 2015 report by the Center for Talent Innovation (CTI), black women prioritize powerful positions as a means to an idealistic professional and personal life. It also states that black women demonstrate unwavering confidence that they can succeed in any given role.

So, when the question of black women empowering or envying each other comes into play, what I have

explained is something that is already universally known by black women.

“Black female professionals have more confidence...” editors Annette U. Rickel, Meg Gerrard and Ira Iscoe said in their book “Social and Psychological Problems of Women: Prevention and Crisis Intervention”.

The book states this type of confidence can be the result of working longer and harder at an experienced situation. With this competitive nature, black women find it hard to admit to being envious of other black women. It is covered by fake smiles and disingenuous compliments. Determined by this competitive nature to reach that floating bouquet of essential life, they will trample anyone standing between them and their goal, even other black women.

Let us imagine the panel again, with there being only one spot for a black woman, while several exceptional black women could fill it. The hard part is evaluating which of these women is best suited for the spot. A barrier to this would be pride, and black women have a lot of pride. A woman’s pride in herself should not be diminished, but rather put aside to not cloud her judgement. Black women have to also be gracious and pull their strength together.

Some may ask, why is this a big problem? It is good to have a little competition. People compete for positions all the time, right? Founder and CEO of CTI Sylvia Ann Hewlett explains this as black women’s duty to their community.

“Black women are committed and motivated to attain a powerful position, not only in their workplaces but also in their communities... With their vision, commitment and leadership experience, black women represent a pool of would-be executives that multinational companies can ill afford to underutilize,” Hewlett said. Black women are very much needed, yet treated as if they are non-existent.

Individually, we cannot make it far. We are stronger when we stand together to achieve an even greater goal. We need to remove the social hierarchy so we do not have to level the playing field at all. By helping other women become extraordinary, a black woman will have the power to open up that panel and level out the playing field for her fellow sisters. Regardless of who wins, they all win. The question I pose for myself is “How can I better my sisters, explain to them that we are stronger together, and doomed apart?”



COLIN VAUGHN | NW MISSOURIAN

# Stop using mental illnesses casually



**ALY BAKER**  
Opinion Columnist  
@alybakecake

Using the names of mental illnesses casually or as figures of speech has become common in conversation, and this needs to stop.

I wish I were exaggerating, but I hear someone use a mental illness term in an incorrect and colloquial way at least once a day. This is harmful for so many reasons.

Using mental illnesses casually categorizes these illnesses into positive or negative illnesses. It makes the illness sound significantly less serious than it is and further contributes to the stigma of mental illnesses.

When you use a mental illness casually, this categorizes mental illnesses into two categories: those that are acceptable to have and those that are not.

People often say those who have an organized closet or clean home are OCD. If your mom is happy with you one moment and

yelling at you the next, you might refer to her as bipolar. This makes OCD sound like a positive trait to have and makes bipolar disorder sound like a negative trait.

Not only do those people not have a mental illness, these illnesses strongly affect an individual’s daily life and are not positive.

Casually using a mental illness in conversation dilutes the seriousness of the illness and makes it sound like much less of an issue than it really is.

For people living with these illnesses, their lives are often consumed by them. Their illnesses can keep them from living life the way they want to.

Just because you could not sleep one night does not mean you have insomnia. Insomniacs often cannot sleep for weeks.

Just because you got scared because you lost your keys does not mean you had a panic attack. My panic attacks make me feel like there is a 50 pound weight on my chest and like I might die of asphyxiation.

These illnesses are serious and should not be spoken about casually because you do not have a better word to use.

Using mental illnesses casually further promotes the stigma already attached to them. Physical illnesses are often ranked as more important than mental illnesses and this proves that.

If you had a cough, you would not tell someone that you had bronchitis or pneumonia unless you had been professionally diagnosed. Why would you treat a mental illness any differently?

Being a psychology minor, I hear people use these terms incorrectly and all I hear is ignorance. I know that I cannot expect someone who has never taken psychology classes to know the definition of these illnesses, but they are much more than you are making them out to be.

The next time you want to use a mental illness casually, pick up a thesaurus instead and choose a better word.

## OUR VIEW:

# Betsy DeVos threatens foundation of education

**NAME HERE**  
Position Here | @TheMissourian

After a tie-breaking vote by Vice President Mike Pence, Betsy DeVos was named the nation’s Secretary of Education. DeVos, having only recently secured the title, has stirred up quite a bit of commotion in the United States.

Billionaire DeVos is the most recent Trump administration controversy to fill Twitter feeds in the last week or so, but this time, the controversy is surrounding not just education as it sits, but potentially the education of generations to come.

For those unfamiliar with the newly elected Secretary of Education, DeVos has mostly remained on the sidelines of large scale education change.

According to MSNBC, DeVos

has had heavy Republican motivations since 1982, donating an astounding \$17 million to republican leaders since 1989. As far as the most recent national election, DeVos showed her support with Jeb Bush and later on Marco Rubio, but interestingly denounced President Trump as an “interloper” who “does represent the Republican Party.”

With her recently acquired position, it is clear DeVos has a goal in mind when it comes to her view on education.

Much of the criticism surrounding any important party-affiliated decision can be logically traced back to the other party, but in DeVos’s case, both parties seem to have their own fair share of issues. This comes from a huge concern regarding DeVos’s lack of experience in education.

Other than only showing her support for school vouchers and charter school implementation countrywide, DeVos has little experience in the education system.

It seems almost as if DeVos has only her financial power and a night of reading education articles to thank for her position as Secretary of Education of the United States.

An informed opinion on the state of the U.S. education system and, more importantly, experience in the system is essential to holding the position of Secretary of Education. Unfortunately, these are skills DeVos seems to lack.

This lack of skills can be highlighted by her overwhelming want for charter schools and school vouchers, two things that many teachers across the country are opposed to.

As a whole, both of these things could fundamentally change how the U.S. education system works, giving most government funds to private schools.

Many public school superintendents already have issues divvying up funds equally, a huge cut in funding going toward private schools only adds to these issues. This destroys public education and is the biggest problem with DeVos’s proposed actions.

The education system has its fair share of problems, but its positives greatly outweigh its negatives. DeVos, a private school attendee herself, only has one side of the story under her belt, inherently making her seem less equipped to make decisions strictly regarding public education.

Simply based on an ethical lev-

el, DeVos has no place in such a position of power.

One thing that is certain is DeVos’s passion for education. DeVos is not inhuman and is not out to destroy the education of children everywhere, though this is a way of thinking that many seem to subscribe to.

DeVos, though misguided, has good intentions as Secretary of Education, and proves this with her constant interest in education since the early 2000s.

DeVos is one-sided in her education on education, and her decisions will be criticized and challenged every day she is Secretary of Education. The criticism is well deserved. That being said, much of the controversy surrounding her could be held to similar criticism.

STAFF

**NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN**

An Independent Student Newspaper since 1914.  
800 University Drive, Wells Hall  
Maryville, MO 64468

Your first copy of the Northwest Missourian is free.  
Additional copies are 25¢ each.

Newsroom: (660) 562-1224  
Advertising: (660) 562-1635  
Circulation: (660) 562-1528  
Fax: (660) 562-1521  
www.nwmissourianews.com  
northwestmissourian@gmail.com

**DIRECTORS**

**Steven Chappell**  
Student Publications Director

**Leslie Murphy**  
General Manager/Advertising Director

**EDITORIAL STAFF**

**James Henderson III**, Editor in Chief  
**Darcie Bradford**, Managing Editor  
**Becca Boren**, A&E and Opinion Editor  
**John-Paul Culver**, Web Developer  
**Isaiah Swann**, Sports Editor  
**Joseph Andrews**, Assistant Sports Editor  
**Shawna Kingston**, Photo Editor  
**Makenzie Dockerty**, Design Editor  
**Morgan Wagle**, Copy Editor  
**Anna Hastert**, News Editor  
**Colin Vaughan**, Cartoonist  
**Sydney Oetter**, Social Media Editor

**NEWS STAFF**

**Anthony Procopio Ross**, Chief Reporter  
**Myranda Nerud**, Chief Reporter  
**Katie Stevenson**, Chief Reporter  
**Michael Cripe**, A&E Reporter  
**Aly Baker**, Opinion Columnist  
**Amber Gierstorf**, Chief Sports Reporter  
**Trey Randle**, Chief Sports Reporter  
**James Howey**, Chief Sports Reporter  
**Liz Morales**, Designer  
**Alex Melo**, Designer  
**James Christensen**, Designer  
**Bria Creeden**, Photographer  
**Hannah Woodson**, Photographer  
**Dylan Coldsmith**, Photographer  
**Alexis Geisert**, Photographer  
**Anastasia Tuttle**, Photographer

**ADVERTISING STAFF**

**Desi Kerr**, Sales Manager  
**Kendra Henggeler**, Account Executive  
**Emily Franken**, Account Executive  
**Alison Hanner**, Account Executive  
**Kristy Briggs**, Account Executive  
**Caitlyn Burkemper**, Graphic Artist Manager  
**Madison Krannawitter**, Graphic Artist  
**Ryan Griesinger**, Graphic Artist  
**Ivory Lacina**, Graphic Artist

**CORRECTIONS POLICY**

If you believe information within our publication is incorrect, please email us at  
northwestmissourian@gmail.com, call our newsroom  
(660) 562-1224, or leave us a comment on  
nwmissourianews.edu.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

We publish letters from readers for free. All letters become the property of the Northwest Missourian, which reserves the right to edit them. Letters should include your name, address and telephone number. Letters should be between 150 and 300 words and sent to r.boren.missourian@gmail.com.



# Camp K-9 walks its way onto campus

**BROOKE BEASLEY**  
Missourian Reporter | @beemackkkk40

A new campus organization picks up the pace as more people bring their dogs to enjoy social and learning time.

Camp K-9 is an organization that started this year. The organization is a place for dog owners and dog lovers to meet and socialize.

Club Founder and President Alicia Pruett got the idea to start the club one day walking her dog, Sasha, on campus.

“Well, my second year I moved off campus and brought my boxer pit mix up from home to live with me,” Pruett said. “As I worked with her and walked her around campus, I’d have people asking me simple obedience questions about their dogs. So I figured why not start a dog club?”

Pruett wants to help socialize dogs in the community.

“Our mission is to educate and connect the community on how to communicate with dogs of all levels and pair up with the humane society to help dogs become more adoptable,” Pruett said. “We can balance each other’s ideas, get some exercise and help socialize people and the dogs, which is really important. We’re also hoping this club will raise awareness to surrounding renting areas that students need an affordable pet policy, especially for dogs.”

The club feels it is important for

people to know they do not have to own a dog to join. Vice President Charlene Penrod notes that if you do not have a dog, you can use one from the Humane Society.

“We do basic training and socialization with our own dogs and

skills. They conclude the meetings by walking the dogs around campus.

Camp K-9’s first fundraiser meeting was Feb. 18. They put on a 5K run with the Humane Society and Sigma Society where people could run with their dogs or en-

“Our mission is to educate and correct the community on how to communicate with dogs of all levels...”

dogs from the humane society,” Penrod said. “With the Humane Society dogs, we work towards making them more adoptable. We are open to all dogs, ranging from shy and non-socialized to aggressive. No level of training is required. We don’t require you to have your own dog.”

The club only has 10 members, but they are constantly growing. Pruett said the club goes on walks around campus at the end of every meeting, and that is actually how they have gained almost half of the club members. They also have booths in the union, and are always open to new members.

“There is literally no downfall to joining this club,” Pruett said. “Especially if you plan to have a dog in the near future.”

The club meets Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in Garrett Strong 1520. At meetings, club members start off talking about fundraiser ideas. After that, they work on the dogs’ obedience

ter to run by themselves for a registration fee. All proceeds went to the Humane Society.

Sigma Society Service Co-Chair Jeannie Schleip tells about the organization’s involvement.

“We helped by handing out water to the runners as they were running the routes. It was awesome to work with them. The Humane Society has always been one of our favorite organizations to help, and being able to partner with another club was awesome because they brought a new and unique event.”

The organization is planning another 5K for sometime later in the semester, with hopes of having more supporters.

“Whether you are a dog expert or have never owned a dog, but want to hang out with them, we have a place for you,” Pruett said. “You can learn, get exercise, meet various people and help the community.”



ALEXIS GEISERT | NW MISSOURIAN

Participants walk with their dogs in the Camp K-9 5K Saturday, Feb. 17.

## LABOR CONTINUED FROM A1

“It simply says that every worker should have the choice about whether or not they want to join a union,” Greitens said. “They should have the choice. And if they choose not to join, they can’t be forced out of their job.”

After the bill was signed into law, lead sponsor for Right to Work and Missouri State Rep. Holly Rehder said Right to Work would make Missouri a more business-friendly state.

“States that have passed (Right to Work laws) in the last few years have shown unemployment drop considerably, so I think this is a big deal for all Missouri working families,” Rehder said. “I think that it’s not a silver bullet, but it’s definitely a tool in our toolbox.”

Smith said he believes the Right to Work laws are more of a political move than anything meant to benefit workers in Missouri, especially since the power of collective bargaining has been eliminated with the passage of the law.

“The reality is that Right to Work is a misnomer. It is designed to cut off financial support for unions, and has nothing to do with workers’ rights,” Smith said. “Workers are not pushing for Right to Work; large employers and politicians who see unions as political opposition are. I don’t have the data, but my understanding is that

in every single state where Right to Work has been passed, wages (within unions) have gone down significantly as collective bargaining power has diminished, and there has been no corresponding increase in jobs.”

Collective bargaining is a process where union workers can communicate with management that addresses a wide range of concerns in a particular workplace. This type of communication is done through voting on a labor contract. Some of the things covered in those contracts include employee wages, hours, benefits, time off, raises, promotions and disciplinary issues.

Kevin O’Neill, publisher of the KC Labor Beacon, a publication that produces political and legislative analysis about how politics are affecting unions, said without Collective bargaining unions could lose 30 to 40 percent of their members.

“It allows people to negotiate a contract but those that choose not to participate by not paying dues don’t have to,” O’Neill said. “So they will reap the benefits of the negotiations without paying into it. At that point you can’t pay the negotiators and at that point collective bargaining goes away. For local unions they could lose 30-40 percent of their membership.”

Grietens believes union membership dues are harming workers and that it is wrong for union bosses to collect union dues from their

workers.

“Here’s what you’ve heard from union bosses about Right to Work: it’s a union-busting, job-killing, anti-worker program that will drive down wages and outlaw unions,” Grietens’s website states. “Here’s the truth: They’re lying. Right to Work creates jobs, grows wages and increases union membership. I support Right to Work and I support it because it would stop companies and union bosses from taking a cut of your paycheck to support their political organization. It’s just common sense. That money is your money and you should decide how you want to spend it.”

O’Neill said the Right to Work law is overstepping government boundaries.

“There is no real need for it,” O’Neill said. “Much of this is that the republicans are always talking about government overreach, but this is totally government overreach. There is already a law in place that says union members can say ‘I don’t want any of my money going toward politics or candidates.’”

O’Neill said there is even an effort to enact national Right to Work legislation, but his opposition to that was made clear.

“It’s a terrible law. The biggest thing is that it is government overreach, and they are enacting it in their own way and it’s not good for unions,” O’Neill said.





usbank.com

Visit us today!

**Maryville**  
120 S. Main St. | 660.582.7159  
1621 S. Main St. | 660.562.2000

  
Equal Housing Lender. Member FDIC.160267 4/16



**WALKER**  
**Body Shop**  
**& Towing**  
**Service**  
COMPLETE AUTOBODY  
REPAIR & TOW SERVICE  
“PULLING FOR NORTHWEST MISSOURI FOR OVER 53 YEARS.”

**NIGHTS**  
660.582.9276

**24-HOUR**  
660.582.3104

## Blotters for the week of Feb. 23

### Maryville Department of Public Safety

**Feb. 2**  
A summons was issued to **Connor J. Delk**, 19, for possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and equipment violation at the 100 block of Third Street.

A summons was issued to **Spencer A. Smith**, 23, for driving while suspended and illegal U-turn at the 400 block of North Main.

**Feb. 6**

### Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

**Feb. 15**  
A summons was issued for property damage at Millikan Hall.

A summons was issued for stealing at Fine Arts.

**Feb. 16**

There is an ongoing investigation for tampering with a motor vehicle at the 1200 block of South Main.

**Feb. 9**  
There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 200 block of North Main.

**Feb. 10**  
A summons was issued to **Eric L. Bagby**, 23, for property damage, trespassing and disorderly conduct at the 200 block of West Seventh Street.

**Feb. 11**  
There is an ongoing investigation

A summons was issued to **Chance Allen**, 22, for driving while intoxicated at Lot 38.

**Feb. 17**  
A summons was issued for stealing at the Student Union.

The Campus Safety Authority reported rape at South Complex to Maryville Public Safety.

A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Millikan Hall.

for lost/stolen license plate at the 200 block of East First Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for assault at the 1100 block of East Fifth Street.

**Feb. 12**  
Two summonses were issued to **Ciera L. Smith**, 22, and **Nicholas P. Minear**, 33, both of St. Joseph, for trespassing at the 1600 block of South Main.


**Feb. 14**  
A summons was issued to **James A. Rasmussen**, 40, for failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market.

**Feb. 19**  
A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Forest Village.

A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Franken Hall.

**Feb. 20**  
A summons was issued for burglary at Perrin Hall.

**Pitzenberger Body Shop**  
TONY WOOD  
Estimator

  
WE TAKE THE DENT'S OUT OF ACCIDENTS

2711 South Mulberry  
Maryville, MO 64468  
660.582.4599  
tony\_wood@suddenlink.net


**HELP WANTED**  
PART-TIME SEASONAL HELP NEEDED  
AT MOZINGO LAKE RECREATION PARK

The City of Maryville is now accepting applications for part-time summer help. The Maintenance division is hiring maintenance laborers and mower operators for the park and golf courses, as well as a mechanic’s assistant. The Operations division is seeking information booth attendants and housekeepers, as well as pro shop attendants, cart attendants, and concessionaires at the golf course. Concessionaires must be 21 years of age. Most positions are available from March through October and start out at \$8.01 an hour. Applications can be obtained at City Hall (415 N. Market) or online at [www.maryville.org](http://www.maryville.org) and will be accepted until the positions have been filled. Please attach a schedule of availability to your application. EOE/AA




HEALTH & WELLNESS  
DIRECTORY

UNIVERSITY WELLNESS SERVICES



Wellness services provides health education, personal development and counseling, and outpatient clinical services to Northwest Students.

Wellness Center  
800 University Drive  
Maryville, MO 64468  
Phone: (660) 562-1348  
Email: health@nwmissouri.edu



You think you know everything about someone, but you *might* not know everything...get tested

The Source Medical Clinic  
660.215.3024

STI / Pregnancy Testing

2613 S. Main • Maryville

Want to see your ad here?

Contact the Missouriian at  
nwmadv@nwmissouri.edu

Paranormal Inactivity



RICK ENCOUNTERS A NON-BELIEVER:

NOPE! YOU'RE JUST A FIGMENT OF MY IMAGINATION! GHOSTS DON'T EXIST!

OH, WELL I GUESS YOUR IMAGINATION IS ABOUT TO USE YOUR CREDIT CARD TO ORDER TAKE-OUT.

COLIN VAUGHAN | NW MISSOURIAN

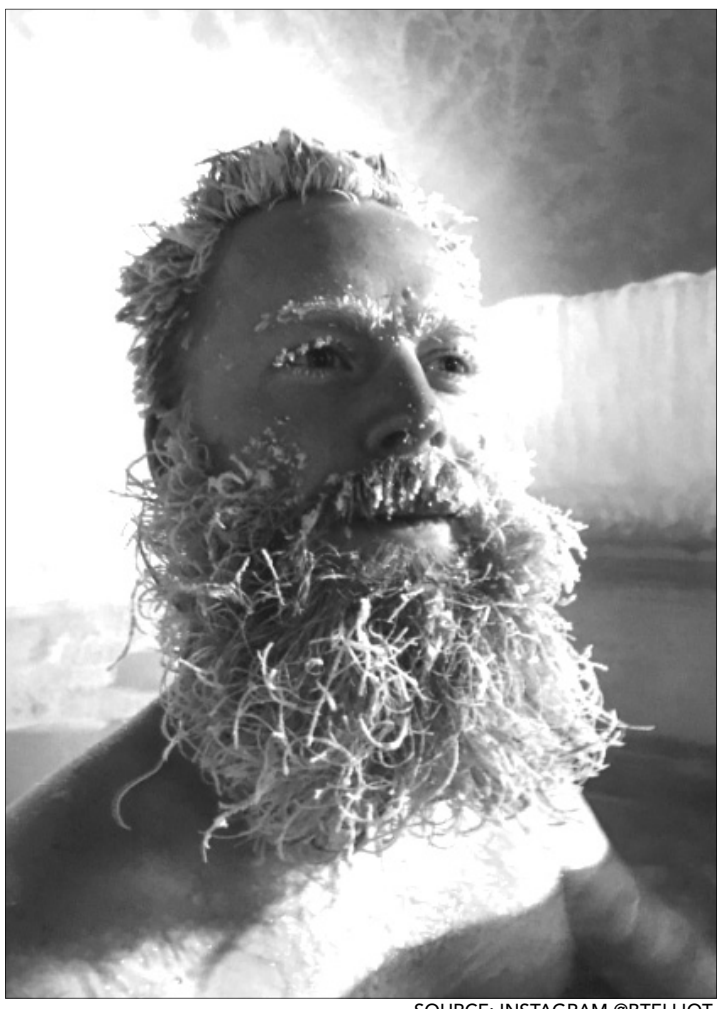
Want to see your comics here?

Contact the Missouriian at  
j.henderson.missourian@gmail.com

YOUR NAME HERE

#ICYMI

Over the years, there have been some pretty weird trends, but Whitehorse, Yukon, has taken it to a whole new level. Its newest trend is hair-freezing competitions. People dip into the Takhini Hot Pools and then submit photos of their frozen hair. The winner of the contest wins \$700. Unfortunately, this guy did not win.



SOURCE: INSTAGRAM @BTCELLIOT

CROSSWORD

By Peter A Collins

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Clues Across

1. \_\_ fi (slang)

4. Carolina Panthers' Newton

7. Documented organizational practice

10. A way to change color

11. Boxing legend

12. Football coach Parseghian

13. Rewards (archaic)

15. Colbert's network

16. Palm trees

19. Capital of N. Carolina

21. LA ballplayers

23. Does not sit

24. A way to intensify

25. Penny

26. Elements' basic unit

27. Muscular weakness (pl.)

30. Makes sense

34. Helps little firms

35. Go quickly

36. Found at the end of books

41. A way of carving

45. The back of one's neck

46. Israeli dance

47. They help golfers

50. Western landmass

54. Evokes

55. A Big Easy hoopster

56. Small valleys

57. Water in the solid state

59. Acquired brain injury

60. Don't let this get too big

61. Motor is one type

62. Negative

63. A hiding place

64. Negative

65. Excavated

Solutions

14. Consume

17. Curve

18. Midway between south and southeast

20. Unit of heredity

22. Upon

27. Pressure unit

28. Australian TV station

29. Cool!

31. A person's guardian spirit

32. French river

33. Body part

37. Gratify

38. Watertight chamber

39. Dueling sword

40. Term

41. Having an attractive shape

42. Togo capital

43. Island nation

44. Arctic deer with large antlers

47. Dishonorable man

48. Equal to 100 sq. meters

49. Administered

51. Cake topping

52. Car for hire

53. Autonomic nervous system

58. Intelligence organization

SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

					2			
	3			8				9
8		1			7			
						2		7
2	5	9						
					1	6		
4		7						
		8	1					
	2		6		9		4	5

SOLUTIONS

6	8	1	3	9	2	4	7	5
5	3	4	1	8	7	6	9	2
2	7	9	6	4	5	8	1	3
4	1	5	2	3	8	7	6	9
8	9	3	7	1	6	2	5	4
7	6	2	4	5	9	3	8	1
3	2	7	9	6	1	5	4	8
1	5	6	8	2	4	9	3	7
9	4	8	5	7	3	1	2	6

P	A	R	C	E	L	A	B	R	A	D	E		
P	E	T	I	O	L	E	D	E	C	L	I	N	E
U	N	M	O	M	A	N	D	D	A	D	A	D	
R	I	S	E	S	D	O	L	F	E	R	M	I	
E	L	I	S	P	E	D	E	S	R	E	E	F	
E	E	C	T	A	D	D	A	H	A	L	I		
I	R	A	N	C	O	U	L	E	E				
C	A	L	I	X	A	C	I	D	S				
I	D	I	O	C	Y	A	R	A	S				
T	E	A	O	A	T	C	U	E	T	A	B		
A	N	N	A	P	R	O	E	M	S	I	L	O	
D	O	S	E	D	A	I	T	P	A	C	E	R	
E	M	S	A	D	D	L	E	B	A	G	R	E	
L	A	M	I	N	A	E	R	E	P	E	A	T	S
S	C	R	U	B	S	A	L	A	R	M	S		



# Mr. Northwest



Corey Graham interviews for Mr. Northwest.



Andrew Olsen is dipped by his Alpha Sigma Alpha escort.



Corey Graham dances along with his Alpha Sigma Alpha escort.



Tucker Franklin struts during the swimwear portion.



Alex Sanchez sings for his talent portion of the show.



Cole Bixler is fitted for a toilet paper swimsuit.

## Special Olympics benefit brings Bearcats out of their comfort zones

Students filled the Performing Arts Center Feb. 15 ready to cheer on fellow classmates and special olympic athletes.

Alpha Sigma Alpha put on its annual Mr. Northwest, a male pageant aimed at raising awareness and funds for the Special Olympics of Missouri (SOMO).

According to SOMO’s website, the Special Olympics is “the world’s largest sports organization with nearly 4 million athletes in more than 170 countries -- 15,000 of them here in Missouri.”

The organization has been around for 40 years, and are trying to send the message that people with disabilities can do anything they set their minds to.

“Through the power of sports, people with intellectual disabilities discover new strengths and abilities, skills and success,” SO-MO’s website said. “Our athletes find joy, confidence and fulfillment -- on the playing field and in life. They also inspire people in their communities and elsewhere to open their hearts to a wider world of human talents and potential.”

Contestants opened the show by dancing to Miley Cyrus’ “Party in the USA,” which went with the American Pride theme. They competed in four different areas: swimwear, talent, formal wear and an interview section.

Junior Alex Sanchez was nominated by Phi Sigma Kappa and was excited to represent his fraternity.

“My favorite part was the talent portion. I cannot sing to save my life, but I had fun up there,” Sanchez said.

Sanchez loves the cause and is glad he got to experience such a great event.

“I embarrassed myself a lot, but for the cause you can’t really complain,” Sanchez said. “I made some new friends, and overall, it was a really great experience for me.”

Freshman Tucker Franklin of Sigma Tau Gamma won the title of Mr. Congeniality.

“It was a great honor...” Franklin said. “Going into the contest, I did not think I was going to win it, but I felt really good after each event. I left the crowd laughing and that was my goal. I wanted to entertain and that’s what I did.”

Mr. Northwest is a long-standing University tradition that connects the Northwest campus with the community. It brings in diversity and encourages compassion and understanding.

PHOTOS BY SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Mr. Northwest Honorable Mention	
Swimwear	Tucker Franklin
Talent	Andrew Olsen
Formal Wear	Matthew Woley
Interview	Corey Graham
Mr. Congeniality	Tucker Franklin
Mr. Northwest James Turner Bradley Plummer Joe Marez	



Contestants in Mr. Northwest perform their opening number Feb. 15.



Trevor Butler shows off his DJ skills for his talent.



Dalton Haberman shows off his skills in the swimwear show.



Derek Method shows off during the swimwear.



# Performers drop mic on diversity

MEKA WRIGHT  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

The crowd swirled with low whispers of impatience as it waited for what was in store Feb. 16 in the Towerview room of the J. W. Student Union. The Drop the Mic event, held by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion department for Black History Month, filled students with anticipation.

What was in store was revealed as performers’ bodies formed a perfect line on the stage as they introduced themselves.

A variety of performers were on queue for the Drop the Mic event for Black History Month. As the show began, performers approached the stage one by one, explosive power releasing from their mouths, their words enticing the audience, a rolling silence capturing the room. Fifty pairs of eyes were trained forward, a motionless sea.

Poets Darrell Dixon, John Lewis and Sheri Hall performed what they call “The Message.”

“My name is Purpose,” Hall said as her hands drew a line underneath the seven letters across her chest. The audience remained silent, expectant of their next words.

“And I am Hypocrisy,” Lewis said. “I am Revealed Visions or RV—and we are ‘The Message,’” Dixon said.



Sheri Hall, a member of the Slam Poet group “The Message,” performs a piece at “Drop the Mic Night.”  
ANNASTASIA TUTTLE | NW MISSOURIAN

The trio performed a series of connected poems. Ranging from topics such as Black Lives Matter, police brutality, equality and even personal experiences, these topics framed what was presented on the stage. Each poetic act transformed the atmosphere.

Their words brought new knowledge of controversial conversations to students and staff together. Though some of the performers’

material was about conflicting topics, the night was filled with significant understanding and appreciation for the art of poetry.

“So, we are a composite group,” Hall said. “It started New Years 2015, that people would come to me and say ‘Hey! Can you get a couple of other poets to do something?’ And I’d say ‘OK,’ and I’d pray and think about and whoever popped in my brain.”

She pointed to her partners. “We became ‘The Message,’” Hall said.

After working together in open mic nights in Kansas City, the trio was the first poetry team from Kansas City, Missouri to go to the National Championship.

“The Message” were not the only poets with influential words of wisdom. Seniors Nick Van Ross, Shin Woold Kang, Taylor Obrien,

Danielle Fassler and La’Marr Merri-man also shared their words.

Van Ross shared his inner worries of living in America as a black man. He expressed his frustrations about his community, as well as his country, through metaphors and similes. Kang brought to light issues within the education system when it comes to minority students.

Coaxing the audience through his significant words, he captured the room on another level than other performers. “Repeat after me,” Kang said. “We are strong. We are smart. We are the future.”

Without hesitation, the audience repeated the words in unison. “We are strong. We are smart. We are the future.”

Fassler highlighted the frustrations of the LGBTQ+ community with an inspiring story of a young lesbian woman and her struggles with her secret. She finished off her performance with a heartfelt song, which she sung a cappella.

Merriman captured the resilience and strength of the black women in his world with a tale of his experiences.

“Thank you, black women, and continue to be great black women,” Merriman said.

The Drop the Mic event was a nice close to another week of Black History Month.

## THE STROLLER:

# Your Bearcat wants you to be yourself

In the oh-so-wise words of Mufasa from the Disney classic “The Lion King,” “Remember who you are.”

It is difficult to pin down who exactly that is without coming to terms with the life you choose to live and what you choose to do in it. I am talking about the quiet yet powerful act of self-reflection.

Some people meditate, some people are extremely self-perceptive and others have no clue. Conformity is only as strong as the will

of the people you surround yourself with daily. When you buy into everything people around you say and do so without some conscious consideration, you are only living passively.

On my daily walk to and from classes, I sometimes come across groups of people whose similarity reaches further than the cup of Starbucks in their hands and the style of clothes they are wearing.

This legitimately scares me because I genuinely wonder about the ways these people are feeling

included. Are Ugg boots more in style than originality?

I think we can escape this by becoming invested in things that truly interest us as Bearcats. If pop culture is your thing because of your undying love for Ed Sheeran, then, by all means, continue jamming out.

If pop culture is your thing because you want to feel worthy to a group that undermines other interests, rethink your situation for a second.

Value peers who accept you as you are. I promise you, there are people who still accept weird. Not weird in the sense you happen to like one song from ‘insert socially obscure artist here,’ but in the sense you are being yourself regardless of what others think.

I am sure it is obvious that, especially in college, the world is full of many beautifully diverse groups of individuals. I do not believe everyone has taken steps to ensure differences are appreciated.

We seem stuck. I want to hear why you are passionate about the didgeridoo. I want to know about your pet iguana, Sparky. I want you to show me the cool-looking rock you found the other day and where you found it. I do not want to see the meme you found on 9gag. Let us move past grayscale and show our true colors, Bearcats.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

620 N Main St,  
Maryville,MO  
64468  
(660) 251-5009

Discount  
TOBACCO & CIGARETTES  
GAS  
BEER/LIQUOR  
LOTTERY

Mon- SAT  
5AM- 1AM  
SUNDAY  
6AM-12AM

SCREEN PRINTING & EMBROIDERY

SALE!  
25% OFF  
ALL REGULARLY PRICED APPAREL  
CELEBRATING OUR 25th YEAR IN BEARCAT NATION  
Now Until March 1st

## SAC Murder Mystery slays

CORIE HERTZOG  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Nancy Drew and Sherlock Holmes could not hold a candle to Northwest students Feb. 17.

At a murder mystery dinner hosted by Student Activity Council (SAC), students became suspects and crime fighters as they tried to find out who killed Bobby Bearcat.

The event was organized by SAC Director of Weekends senior Breanna Sorenson. The murder mystery dinner was the third event she has put on. She also organized a movie night where SAC showed Suicide Squad and hosted a night for students to tie-dye shirts.

“I basically plan for events we have on Fridays,” Sorenson said.

At the beginning of the night, students were given new identities to use for the night by comedians Mike Keenly and Sherman Edwards. As students dined on chicken parmesan, garlic bread and cheesecake, Keenly and Edwards played detectives trying to figure out the murder weapon. The two managed to narrow it down to cheesecake, noodles or feathers.

As the night progressed, students had the opportunity to accuse each other of the crime. By the end, there were three suspects under the aliases of Hot Hot Foliage, Bobby Bearcat’s maid; T-Bone (Alex West-hues), his girlfriend; and Purple Friday (Danielle Cawley), an undercover cop. Through a series of tests, including dance offs and rap battles, the audience had to figure out who did it, where, why and how.

The first murder theory was



Students fill their plates with food during the Murder Mystery Dinner Feb. 17 at the Student Union Ballroom.  
ALEXIS GESIERT | NW MISSOURIAN

that Hot Hot Foliage poisoned Bobby in the kitchen by putting cinnamon (something Bobby is very allergic to) in his cheesecake, because he was written out of the will.

The other was that T-Bone put cinnamon in Bobby’s noodles in the dining room because he was put into the will and wanted the money.

The final theory was Purple Friday wanted to boost her reputation at the station and overdosed Bobby by placing heroin-laced feathers in his pillow. Through applause, the audience decided theory number three was the truth.

While one may assume it was all planned, from the rap battle to the murder, it was actually nearly all improv. The suspects were picked at random and the murder weapons were chosen through puns. In fact, Keenly and Edwards did not know much about Northwest until after they arrived.

“We got more information as it got closer to time, but we got most of our information the day of,” Edwards said.

While it was the first time the comedians came to Northwest, for freshman Samantha Forward it was her first time attending such an event.

“It was my first time attending a murder mystery dinner and it was nothing like I thought it would be,” Forward said. “I was expecting it to be all planned out, but instead, the audience got to decide the fate of the entire evening. All together I really enjoyed the show and thought it had a nice modern spin, which allowed everyone to laugh and have fun. If SAC were to put on another event like this, I would definitely attend.”

Attendance was high and were left feeling full and excited. The audience was active and engaged. Some people even spewed lemonade from laughing so hard. Case closed!

Step up to the right bank™  
Bank with a prepaid card account.  
nvb.com

NODAWAY VALLEY BANK  
care-free card™  
1234 5678 9012 3456  
01/15  
Debit  
MasterCard

NWM

nwmissourianews.com



SPORTS BRIEF

Opening match moved up

Northwest tennis coach Mark Rosewell has announced a change to the 2017 men’s tennis schedule. The Bearcats will now begin the season at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 25, against McPherson College in Baldwin City, Kansas.

The seven-time defending MIAA regular season champion Northwest men were picked first in the 2017 MIAA Pre-season Coaches Polls which were released in January. The Northwest women will begin play on Wednesday, March 1, when both teams take on UMKC in Maryville, Mo., at 2 p.m.

The only key loss from last season’s squad included Bearcat Alvero Riveros. Though the Costa Rica native doesn’t appear on the roster, Riveros has returned as a Graduate Assistant for the team and will serve the position for Northwest’s upcoming season.

Rosewell has plenty to be excited about with the return of varsity roster spots sophomore Sergi Fontcuberta, senior Aymeric Autones, senior Fin Glowick, junior Mauro Tete and senior Romain Boissinot.

Boissinot finished the 2015-2016 year ranked No. 38 nationally and No. 2 in the region.

Tete received First Team All-MIAA honors at No. 3 doubles. The junior was also named All-MIAA Second Team at No. 4 singles.

Fontcuberta rounds out the Bearcat veterans with an MIAA Freshman of the Year award in the previous season.

PITTS  
CONTINUED FROM A12

“Sleep,” Pitts said. “I sleep all the time. I probably sleep too much. It’s probably why I look like I’m asleep all the time.”

Throughout the week, Pitts plans his perfect nap schedule in accordance with his class load. This semester, Pitts has zero classes both Tuesday and Thursday, making those days prime sleeping opportunities.

In-between naps, the junior finds a small gap of time to play the occasional NBA 2k17 with teammate Xavier Kurth. According to Pitts, the junior emerges victorious after every game.

“Always,” Pitts said. “Xav never wins. He’s going to lie and say that he beats me, but he doesn’t.”

Outside of Maryville’s vast selection of fast food choices, Pitts also chooses to indulge in some of his favorite treats, including Sour Patch Kids and cookie dough flavored ice cream.

“I love candy,” Pitts said. “Candy all day and ice cream. I can eat it for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I know it’s not good for me, but I do it anyway.”

In high school came Pitts’ biggest challenge.

“My junior year of high school, my parents moved to Louisiana,” Pitts said. “I haven’t lived with them since I was 16 or 17. I rarely get to see them, and I probably see them two or three times a year. It has definitely changed my life.”

Pitts is one of five siblings, including brothers Troy, Reggie and Jordan as well as a younger sister named Aubrie. Dody and Reggie Pitts parent the family.



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior guard Justin Pitts pumps up his team in a 65-43 Bearcat win Feb. 8. Pitts finished with a game-high 16 points.

The transition was hard. Pitts was missing his sibling’s basketball games and the separation of his parents was even harder.

His freshman year continued the downward spiral. The 5:30 a.m. practices, plus the absence of family, made life for the new Bearcat a tough one.

“It was rough at the start,” Pitts said. “I was ready to just be with my family again.”

As time progressed, Pitts’ comfort level increased.

“I’m happy and realize that this was one of the best choices I’ve made in my life,” Pitts said. “Mom makes sure to call me two or three times a day. She never fails.”

Pitts has an opportunity to hit a level that most Division II athletes can only dream of.

“I have a chance of going overseas and going professional to make money,” Pitts said. “Hopefully I’ll make enough to give back to my parents for what they’ve done for me.”

Growing up, Pitts attended church and continued to do so through high school. Though attending has been a challenge with his busy lifestyle, Pitts still gives credit to the Lord for what he has done.

“I always know I can go to him,” Pitts said. “He played the biggest role in my life and he always will.”

Before every game, Pitts prays

to God and fuels up with his favorite sports drink, dark blue Gatorade.

Pitts’ pregame rituals continue with turning on his iPhone 7 and syncing his pair of blue wireless Beats headphones to it.

His favorite music includes tunes by Drake, Thomas Rhett and a collection of music the Bearcat has collected since his high school days.

“I take a nap before every game,” Pitts said. “I’ve been doing that since high school, the same music, the same playlist; everything.”

As always, Pitts walks onto the court and does what he has done over his first three years at Northwest: dominate.

BOYS  
CONTINUED FROM A12

Maryville’s next test comes against Bishop LeBlond in the Class 3 District 16 semifinals.

Bishop LeBlond pulled the stunning upset over Lathrop 43-35 in the opening round of district tournament. The Spoofhounds beat the Golden Eagles 62-43 Jan. 31. Stoecklein expects an his Spoofhound defense to be tested.

“(They have) good shooters, a lot of guard-type people,” Stoeck-

lein said. “They move the ball fast; they run a lot of offensive stuff. But the thing is, when they catch fire and they get hot, it can be tough.”

Despite the past meetings, the team understands the target it has on its back. The Spoofhounds plan to enter the game just as if it were a new season.

“Come out, play well and play with urgency on defense,” Zimmerman said. “We were kind of lagged a little bit tonight. Overall, just win, survive and advance, that’s all you have to do this time of year.”

MEN  
CONTINUED FROM A12

“I think when you do lose, it wakes you up,” McCollum said. “Sometimes you can get bored with the process and winning that much. I think our guys realize that if you don’t compete at a high level, you can’t win.”

Exhibit A from the Bearcats loss to Missouri Southern.

Up next for Northwest are MIAA foes Lindenwood and Lin-

coln, Feb. 23 and Feb. 25, respectively.

The opportunity to host the Division II NCAA Regional Round in Maryville still stands as a possible situation. Closing the season with a pair of home wins would give the Bearcats plenty of accolades to spar with in the final decision making process.

“We’re playing for a lot right now,” McCollum said. “We will be ready and we will compete.”

In Northwest’s previous dual with Lincoln, Blue Tigers’ senior

Anthony Virdure posted a remarkable 50 points while going 24-of-36 from the field.

Though the Lincoln scoring weapon put up a statistical clinic, McCollum has no intentions on planning around Virdure and only has one hope concerning the Blue Tiger guard.

“Hopefully he misses more shots,” McCollum said. “Maybe we’ll put someone on him, but I think bad teams scheme a lot. We’re not going to do a whole lot different.”



SIMON  
CONTINUED FROM A12

Mathiesen said. “Mainly, I have just been trying to get my name out there, because I do not get as much attention as the kickers from some of the bigger schools.”

The regional combine that Mathiesen will attend Feb. 26 is the first combine specifically for special teams.

As for those pesky missed 33-

yard extra points that plague the NFL, Mathiesen knows the secret does not lie in technique, but in the approach the kicker takes.

“I do not really put extra work in extra points,” Mathiesen said. “Instead of looking at it like a long extra point attempt, I look at it as a chip-shot field goal.”

The calm approach Mathiesen takes to his craft first presented itself in the 2013 playoffs, where he scored multiple field goals against

Grand-Valley State in a game that sent Northwest to the National Championship game.

Not only does his on-field production match up well with some of the better kickers in the country, Mathiesen also looks the part at 6 feet 4 inches and 205 pounds.

“He has great game film,” Bergman said. “His measurements also exceed what an NFL kicker already has.”

ATHLETES of the WEEK



BEARCATS

SPOOFHOUNDS



Ryan Cox



The distance runner finished third overall in the men’s mile at Nebraska, earning his second NCAA-qualifying time of the season.

Rebecca Maher



The infielder went 4-for-6 at the plate, slugging a combined two home runs, four RBIs and two runs in two games Feb. 19.

John Zimmerman



The guard put up 12 points in a 77-29 victory over Brookfield in the opening round of the Class 3 District 16 tournament.

Felicia Sheil



The guard put up 14 points in a 55-32 loss to East Buchanan in the opening round of the Class 3 District 16 tournament.



# ‘Hounds season comes to a close

AMBER GIERSTORF  
Chief Sports Reporter | @ambermae30

Many tears were shed as the Maryville girls basketball team walked off the court for the last time this season.



The Spoofhounds fell to East Buchanan 55-32 in the first round of the Class 3 District 16 tournament Feb. 20. This loss brings Maryville’s season to a close.

The Bulldogs took the lead early in the game, and by the end of the first quarter they were already ahead 23-9. East Buchanan’s junior Madison McCreary dominated the first quarter, scoring 12 of her team’s 23 points. She went on to score 17 points by the end of the game.

The second frame did not get much better for the Spoofhounds. Senior Felicia Sheil was the only Spoofhound to put up points in the second quarter, with two field goals. East Buchanan scored 15 points, widening its lead to 38-13 heading into halftime.

Out of the break, Maryville hit its stride on the offensive side of the ball. Both teams scored 15 points, bringing the score to 53-28 heading into the final eight minutes.

The fourth quarter consisted of a lot of passing and stalling from the Bulldogs in order to run down the clock. East Buchanan only scored two points the entire quarter, while Maryville scored four.

Bulldog Josie Fortney, a Pittsburg State commit, finished with a game-high 20 points. Sheil led the Spoofhounds, finishing with 14 points on the night.

In the end, Maryville’s hard work and defense was not enough to overcome its offensive struggles.

Coach Quentin Albrecht said in the end, it all came down to consistently making shots, and that is where his team fell short.

“Really one of the big differences tonight I think was shooting percentage,” Albrecht said. “We got some nice looks around the basket at times, but we didn’t convert those. They got those shots around the basket and they put them in.”

At one point during the game, Maryville was 4-for-27 from the field, while East Buchanan was 18-for-28. Both teams had roughly the same amount of shots at the same point in the game, but the Bulldogs were able to knock them down while Maryville was not.

After the game, Albrecht and his coaching staff applauded each girl’s season performance, but emphasized the amount of effort and work they will have to put in between now and next season.

“We talked about how proud we are of our seniors...we are truly going to miss them. Going forward, we have to do a better job in the off-season to create better skillsets for our individual players,” Albrecht said.

Four Spoofhound seniors graduate this year: Sheil, Abbie Greeley, Maggie Kempf and Bethel Orshiso. Three of these seniors were starters, so there are a lot of positions to fill by next fall. Sheil said next year she expects the returners to really step up and fill those vacancies.

“I expect to see a lot more growth and integration with the new team,” Sheil said. “I’m excited to just watch it grow and watch it develop from where we started.”

Albrecht is already looking ahead to the future, and he plans to work with girls in the program at a young age, so they have time to de-



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

The Spoofhounds girls basketball team inevitably understand the result in a 55-32 loss to Buchanan Feb. 20.

velop their skills before they reach high school.

“I think our younger kids follow the example of our senior girls, who have set a nice foundation,” Albrecht said. “I’ve been working really hard to build good relationships with our youth coaches and getting the young kids excited about basketball, be-

cause that’s what has to happen.”

When asked what her one piece of advice is for the girls coming in, Sheil said they just have to put in the effort and appreciate the chance to play.

“Play hard and get as many shots as possible,” Sheil said. “It ends before you know it, so it enjoy it while you can.”

NEXT GAMES
<b>Lindenwood @ Northwest</b> Feb. 23 @ 5:30 p.m.
<b>Lincoln @ Northwest</b> Feb. 25 @ 1:30 p.m.

## Twaddle fulfills four-year journey

JAMES HOWEY  
Chief Sports Reporter | @How\_eyseeit

Senior Matt Twaddle stood proud on the winner’s podium at Mizzou Arena Feb. 18.



Twaddle was turned away in his three previous trips to the state tournament, but this time, the senior was not to be denied.

Twaddle defeated Dalton Ward of Sullivan in a 10-4 decision to claim third place in the Class 2 wrestling tournament in the 170 weight class. Twaddle said his emotions were running high.

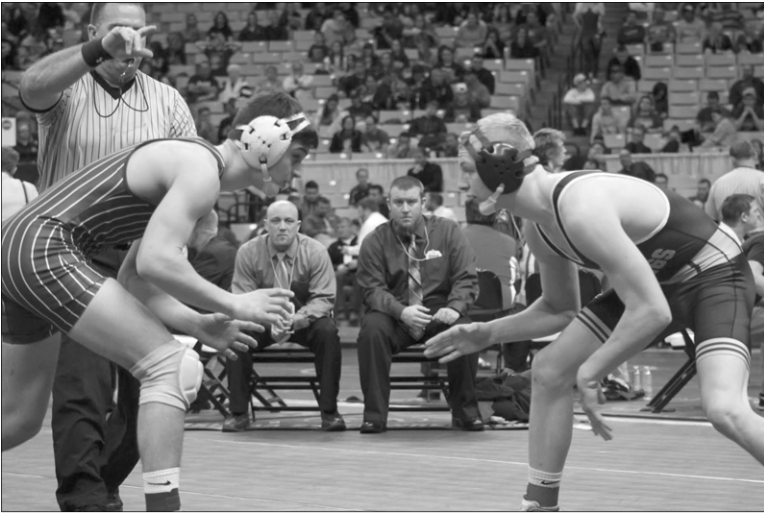
“It was very exciting to finally earn a medal after coming home empty handed three years in a row,” Twaddle said. “It was disappointing to lose in the semis, but very satisfying to battle back for third.”

Twaddle was able to bounce back after a loss in the semifinals to Cole Lightfoot of Pleasant Hill in a 7-2 decision. Twaddle knew he had to pick himself up in order to salvage his last opportunity at a victory.

“Losing in the semis was kind of a heart breaker, but at the same time, we always preach getting the next best thing,” Twaddle said. “I knew I had to keep my emotions under control and keep wrestling as hard as I could to come back and take third.”

After falling short every year, the senior continued to put in work trying to climb the mountain. Coach Connor Kellerstrass said Twaddle showed perseverance and drive after his tough loss. His perseverance and drive were the reasons his career ended on a high note.

“It’s a difficult task to lose the



SUBMITTED

Senior Matt Twaddle and an Eldon wrestler prepare to fight for the Class II Missouri State Semifinals 170 weight class Feb. 18.

semifinal match, and have the mental fortitude to come back and still earn third place,” Kellerstrass said. “His work ethic and passion for the sport for the last four years led him to this point. Matt is consistently one of the hardest workers in the practice room.”

For Kellerstrass and Twaddle, respect and admiration is mutually shared. Twaddle said the impact his coach has had on his career is almost second to none.

“Aside from my family, coach Kellerstrass easily has played the biggest role in my career,” Twaddle said. “I couldn’t have accomplished any of what I have without him. He pushed me every day in the room to become a better wrestler and helped me grow as a person along the way.”

Junior Jackson Sanders and senior Ryan Owens also made the trip to state, but were unable to capture

a win. Kellerstrass said despite their lack of success at state, both should hold their heads high.

“I know they would’ve liked to get a win down there, but they both had outstanding seasons and both accomplished personal goals in qualifying for state,” Kellerstrass said.

Twaddle said the memories he made in his high school wrestling career will not only include the triumph of his last trip to state, but everything on and off the mat leading to that point.

“I will always remember the third place finish and all of the trips down to the state tournament, but more importantly, I will remember all of the friendships I have made and people I have met due to wrestling,” Twaddle said. “I will remember all of the hard work put in and the outlook on life that the sport has given me.”



### Happy Hour

**Monday - Friday: 3-6pm**

**Watch Live Bearcat Games**

**Outdoor Patio and Games**

Carry-out Available  
Daily Lunch Specials Available!

**Monday- Saturday: 11am-close**  
130 N Depot Street, Maryville (660)582-5676

RESIDENTIAL GLASS REPLACEMENT • SAFE SERVICING



**MARYVILLE GLASS & LOCK**  
The First Glass Place to Call



**114 W. 5th**  
**Maryville, MO**

Phone: 660.582.3131  
Mobile: 660.582.9030  
E-mail: mgl@maryvilleglassandlock.com



COMPLETE LOCK SMITH SERVICES • LOCKOUTS • MIRRORS

GARAGE DOORS & OPERATORS

STORE FRONTS • AUTO GLASS

Visit

**Dr. Dallas Fitzgerald**

at the

**Walmart Vision Center**

Eye-health exams as low as \$65 .

Contact lens fitting of all major brands.

Many insurance plans accepted.

1605 S. Main St.  
Maryville, MO  
660.562.0215

SPONSORED BY NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE  
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

NW MEN’S BASKETBALL			NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL		
MIAA Standings			MIAA Standings		
	Overall	MIAA		Overall	MIAA
Y-NORTHWEST.....	24-1	16-1	Y-Pittsburg St.....	24-3	16-2
X-Central Missouri.....	17-8	11-6	Y-Central Missouri.....	20-5	13-4
X-Nebraska Kearney.....	18-8	11-6	X-Emporia St.....	22-4	13-4
X-Fort Hays St.....	16-9	10-7	X-Central Oklahoma.....	21-5	12-5
X-Central Oklahoma.....	16-9	10-7	X-Missouri Western.....	19-7	11-6
X-Missouri Southern.....	16-10	10-7	X-Fort Hays St.....	20-7	11-7
X-Emporia St.....	13-13	9-8	X-Washburn.....	16-10	9-8
X-Lindenwood.....	20-10	9-8	Southwest Baptist.....	15-11	7-10
X-Washburn.....	17-9	9-8	Missouri Southern.....	12-15	7-11
X-Lincoln.....	15-11	8-9	Nebraska Kearney.....	11-15	7-11
X-Southwest Baptist.....	14-12	7-10	Lindenwood.....	11-14	6-11
Missouri Western.....	7-19	3-14	Lincoln.....	5-19	4-13
Pittsburg St.....	5-20	3-14	NORTHWEST.....	8-16	3-14
Northeastern St.....	4-21	3-14	Northeastern St.....	6-19	2-15
<b>Feb. 23</b> Lindenwood at Northwest			<b>Feb. 23</b> Lindenwood at Northwest		
<b>Feb. 25</b> Lincoln at Northwest			<b>Feb. 25</b> Lincoln at Northwest		
X-Clinched spot in MIAA Tournament			X-Clinched spot in MIAA Tournament		
Y-Clinched bye to Kansas City			Y-Clinched bye to Kansas City		

MHS BOYS BASKETBALL		
MSHSAA Class 3 District 16 Tournament		
Maryville	Maryville	
Feb. 21 6 p.m.	Feb. 23 6 p.m.	
Brookfield		
Lathrop	Bishop LeBlond	
Feb. 21 7:30 p.m.		
Bishop LeBlond		
Penney	Penney	
Feb. 21 9 p.m.	Feb. 23 7:30	
South Harrison		
Trenton	Trenton	
Feb. 21 4:30 p.m.		
East Buchanan		
*All games held at Lathrop High School		







# Time to Regroup

## Men set to redirect emotions for last homecourt stretch

ISAIAH SWANN  
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503

After its first lost of the season, Northwest basketball will do what most think is inappropriate: celebrate.



The No. 1 Bearcats (24-1, 16-1 MIAA) conference-best 28 straight MIAA regular season win streak, dating back to Jan. 13, 2016, was shattered by Missouri Southern (16-10, 10-7 MIAA) Feb. 18.

The previous conference mark was 19 straight wins, set in 1931 by Northwest.

After a loss to the unranked Lions in front of a packed house of 2,085 fans in Joplin, Missouri, coach Ben McCollum and the Northwest men's basketball team will take a moment to look back at the team's once-in-a-lifetime run.

"We can celebrate 28 wins in a row," McCollum said. "We can move past that (loss) and move on to future goals."

The idea of going undefeated was always in the back of the athletes' minds. Though things seemed to be going according to plan, the realization of the loss has indefinitely set in.

"It would have been great to be undefeated, but basketball is such a tough sport," junior Justin Pitts said. "You're bound to lose one or two games in a season, and we did some things that probably won't be done for a long time."

Throughout the season, McCollum has pointed to adversity after each and every game. The three-time MIAA coach of the year always preaches that his team needs to be battle tested. He wants his team to grow after each game, and is always looking to say that there is room for improvement.

McCollum's mindset remains the same. Improvements must be made as the Bearcats prepare to play the season's final regular-season



Junior guard Justin Pitts flies by an Emporia State defender on his way to the rack in a 65-43 Bearcat win Feb. 8. Pitts finished with a game-high of 16 points. The Bearcats are back at home against Lindenwood Feb. 23.

BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURIAN

## A peak into the life of a Division II star

ISAIAH SWANN  
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503



Throughout Justin Pitts' life, the junior has found solace in one cycle of events: sleep, success, repeat.

The 5-foot-7-inch guard has etched his name into Northwest record books time and time again and is arguably considered to be the best all-around player in Division II basketball.

What fans and spectators see is a maestro point guard sporting career totals with 1,661 points, 386 assists and 134 steals, as well as being deemed a two-time MIAA player of the year title in his back pocket.

Outside of Bearcat Arena, Pitts has built a basketball career originating from some of his less memorable days at age 4 and 5.

"I was not good at basketball," Pitts said. "I swear I couldn't dribble; I couldn't shoot. I felt like I was the worst."

Fast forward to present day, and the Bearcat junior has come a long way.

From an apartment complex compiling teammates Zach Schneider, Brett Dougherty and D'Vante Mosby, the Blue Springs South native begins his daily tread to the Lampkin Activity Center on campus.

The junior is comfortable in his green and white Adidas outfit, and always picks out the first set of clothing he finds in his Bearcat-engulfed wardrobe.

"I never dress up," Pitts said. "It's usually just basketball shorts and the hoodie. I don't try to look good. I just get up and go."

Much of Pitts' time is spent either weight lifting, watching game film or preparing for the next Northwest game day.

Outside of basketball, Pitts has time for one activity he may treasure just as much as the game he plays.

SEE PITTS | A9

# Boys bury Bulldogs, advance to district semis

JOSEPH ANDREWS  
Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe\_Andrews15

The defending district champion Spoofhounds boys basketball team put to bed a 77-29 victory over Brookfield in Lathrop, Missouri.



The win secures Maryville's (21-4) third trip to the Class 3 District 16 semifinals under coach Matt

Stoecklein.

Two double-digit scoring runs left unanswered by Brookfield attributed to the Spoofhounds' success. The combined 33 points attributed to Maryville's victory parade in the fourth quarter.

"We had our gas on the pedal for a good portion of the game. Then we took our foot off the gas pedal a little bit and didn't play as aggressively as we should," Stoecklein said. "Some-

times that happens."

Seniors John Zimmerman and Jackson Golightly joined sophomore Eli Dowis in double-digit scoring, accounting for 32 of Maryville's points.

Seniors Alex Bean and Spencer Morrison added nine points to the total. Each of Bean's points came from the three point line.

Bean's range has become a commodity for the Spoofhounds, con-

necting on two treys in a 58-42 victory over Savannah Feb. 17.

"That's something he's always been able to do," Stoecklein said. "He has been hitting very good lately; he is shooting with good confidence. His defensive energy is there too."

Senior Spencer Morrison put the first points on the board for the Spoofhounds. Brookfield did not find the hoop until four minutes

and 20 seconds remained in the first quarter, trailing 15-0.

"It was huge," Zimmerman said. "Especially starting Districts, we got a little nervous, and to be able to go on that 15-0 run to start the game helped us push the nerves away."

Zimmerman was responsible for seven of the 15 points, with just one coming at the free throw line.

SEE BOYS | A9

# Record-breaking kicker takes aim at NFL

TREY RANDLE  
Chief Sports Reporter | @treyrock36

Since he has made a name for himself at the collegiate level, recent Northwest graduate and former kicker Simon Mathiesen has set his sights on the NFL.

After four years of breaking various Bearcat records, Mathiesen will get a chance to take his talents to the next level.

Since the rule change in 2015 that pushed extra points back to 33-yards, teams have begun to miss at an exponential rate. Some have even abandoned field goals in favor for two-point conversions.

The rate that teams missed extra points prompted teams such as the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to select a kicker in the second round of the 2016 NFL Draft. The rising relevance of kickers makes the demand

higher. Because of this, Mathiesen finds himself in a situation he can benefit from.

One of the first people to notice Mathiesen's potential to thrive at the professional level is his agent Scott Bergman.

"I think Simon has what it takes to get a fair shot in the NFL," Bergman said. "A team may step up to the plate and use a late-round draft pick on him."

The Northwest all-time leader in made field goals, with 53, Mathiesen has emerged as one of the premier kickers at any level. Whoever decides to draft the Denmark native will also be selecting someone who is familiar to the spotlight.

"He's battle tested," Bergman said. "He seems very cool and collected."

The cool and collected personality Bergman describes is what al-

lowed Mathiesen to thrive in some of the more stressful situations throughout his career.

The common drawbacks surrounding players coming from a Division II program is the level of competition. But according to Mathiesen, the same rules do not apply to kickers.

"Kicking is the same, no matter what level you are," Mathiesen said. "At any level, it's just you putting the ball through the goalposts."

If the sole purpose of a kicker is to put the ball through the goalposts, then Mathiesen is just as efficient as any other kicker in the country. But in a Division II program such as Northwest, exposure can be hard to come by. That is why Mathiesen has made a legitimate effort to put himself in the public spotlight.



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

SEE SIMON | A9

Former Bearcat Simon Mathiesen will try out for the Washington Redskins Feb. 26.